



From Clinique Espérance et Vie

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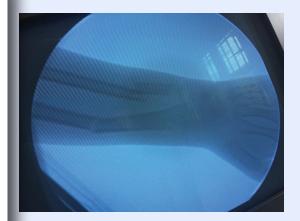
The older I get, the more I am convinced that life is about meaningful relationships. This belief has guided the work of Bethlehem Ministry over the years and was exemplified on my recent trip to Terrier Rouge.

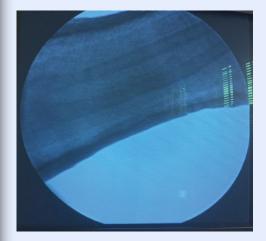
On a sunny Haitian morning in late February, a group of volunteers that included nurses, a physical therapist, and translators, joined me (a former physical therapist), and the new Haitian clinic director, Jacques Mary, in packing up the Toyota SUV to travel to Patricot for a mobile clinic visit. We headed south toward the mountains and turned onto a narrow, washed-out and bumpy road. After 15 minutes of bouncing and gear shifting, we stopped at a concrete block church with a dirt floor. There, we set up 3 health screening/triage stations. Margaret Lambert and Terry Angelich, nurses from Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, focused on treating the children. Colleen Sidwell, an R.N. from Florida, was better suited for seeing our adult patients. Our team was equipped with blood pressure cuffs, glucometers, thermometers, and stethoscopes. We had minimal medications with us, but we were able to treat fever, muscle aches, and minor wounds on location. We were not prepared for what Margaret discovered with one 7-year-old boy. I heard her call, "Trey, look at this!" as she held the young boy's right arm in the air. It did not take an M.D. to tell that his forearm was clearly broken. I said, "Have the translator tell his mom to take him to the hospital in Ft. Liberte or Millot. They can perform x-rays, set, and cast his arm." As the translator began to relay this information, it dawned on me that the family might not even be able to afford the taxi ride to the hospital. So, we asked. Sure enough, the single mom of five could not afford to have her son seen at a hospital. We placed a sling on the young boy, and I told the group that we would take him back to

About 3 hours later, we wrapped up our mobile clinic visit to Patricot, and we all loaded up in the Toyota with an extra 7-year-old sitting in the lap of Caroline, a volunteer from Colorado. We stopped on the way to buy the young patient a container of rice, beans, and chicken. He was grateful for such a hearty meal. Upon arriving at Clinique Esperance et Vie, I used the C-arm to x-ray his arm. I then took a picture of the x-ray with my smartphone and sent it to Jeff Chambers, a physician's assistant in Athens, GA. Jeff is veteran volunteer at the Clínic, and never hesitates to lend a hand. Jeff called us to relay how best to treat it. He began rattling off instructions when I said, "Whoa Jeff, I've got 3 nurses and a physical therapist here with me. I'm going to put you on speaker phone so we can all be on the same page." We gathered the plaster, bandaging, and cast padding, administered some children's pain medication, and positioned the young boy as Jeff had instructed. I wondered to myself what would happen if we did not set it correctly, but I had years of experience seeing how fractures are managed in Haiti. I knew with our expert instructions, qualified personnel, and good intentions, we would give this boy the best chance for successful healing. With two people holding him, physical therapist Lisa Wisniewski held his arm and applied traction, while Colleen prepped the plaster. I began to layer the plaster as Jeff had instructed. It came time to set the bone. Through the tears and calls for his momma in Kreyol, I could feel the plaster begin to warm as it set.

Afterwards, everyone cleared out as I took another x-ray with the C-arm. You can see the result for yourself. The team was thrilled. Mom and son were also pleased. I thought to myself what a great TEAM! I was amazed at what this group of volunteers accomplished. New friends and old friends hundreds of miles away, all using God's gifts to improve the life of this little boy. These are the days and the stories I will remember forever.









École St. Barthélémy

Or a clear morning last November, I left Terrier Rouge for a meeting in Cap-Haitian with hopes and doubts filling my mind. Although Eliphete, my driver, was talking excitedly about the last soccer game between my favorite team and their eternal rival, I could focus only on the meeting I was about to have with the owners of the land adjacent to École Saint Barthélémy. For years, I had been dreaming about acquiring a portion of their land to create a new entrance for the School that would reduce the distance for those attending Saint Barthélémy.

As soon I arrived at the meeting, I laid on the table the proposal to purchase a 120 X 6.4 meter section of their property to be used for the new entrance road to the School. The reaction of the owners came to me as a big surprise. Speaking in the name of the family one of the children said, "We cannot sell that piece of our property to the School. We give it freely in appreciation and recognition for the important work that St. Barthélémy is doing for the children of Terrier Rouge and the surrounding communities. We are proud to participate in this important endeavor."

Two days later, representatives of the family came to Terrier Rouge to set the boundaries and place the first stone of our new road. We started construction immediately, and due to generous funding, we hope to finish it soon.

Once more the Lord has taught me to be still by trusting Him. I thank Him and glorify His name for another great lesson.

Thank you, good and generous supporters for your contributions which allow us to maintain the high standards of education for the children of our communities. Please continue to support us with your prayers and your property.

May you have all a blessed Easter.

This comes with the assurance of myst





PATROE

Jatrofa Projenou

Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day in Haiti

Haiti desperately needs trees. Few other places are as emblematic of environmental collapse as Haiti. It is an island threatened by rising

sea levels, an island vulnerable to violent weather from climate change, and an island whose economy is crippled by endemic poverty. Its deficit of trees is a culpable party.

But massively planting trees can induce positive change. While that may seem as daunting as building Daytona Beach one grain of sand at a time, we must remember the recovery of Lake Erie, the recovery of the Great Plains from the Dustbowl, and others—where collapsed environments bounced back with human intervention and living ecosystems. JP's reforestation program is embarking on this quest.

Last month a group from First Presbyterian Church in Athens, GA helped build a shade house in Terrier Rouge to allow us to grow more trees. Now we're onto the next step, getting them into the ground on Haiti's hills and we need your help. For \$1 we can deliver and plant a tree and in 9 months it will be taller than you. That's a deal you'd jump on for your own backyard. But on Haiti's hills, trees are more than shade, they are economic assets for families, shapers of climate, conservers of water, controllers of erosion, reducers of floods, and removers of carbon from our planet's atmosphere (which only photosynthesis can do). In other words, when we plant trees in your Haitian backyard, there is a local and a global impact - a fitting commemoration of Earth Day's reminder that there's *Only One Earth*.

How many trees would you like to plant? To tell us, visit BethlehemMinistry.org and designate "TREES" under one time donation and we'll deliver and plant one tree on Haiti's hills for every dollar. Our goal is 10,000 trees planted on Haiti's hills by Christmas. Let's plant the future together.

Rob Fisher, Director of Jatrofa Projenou



When their Mama said to make their beds, they did. With JP's help, these brothers are planting trees to sustainably produce the wood for their craft.



Preparing to plant a seedling on the hills of Haiti.



Americans and Haitians build Jatrofa Projenou's shade house to grow more trees.

Making a Difference in Haiti

www.BethlehemMinistry.org